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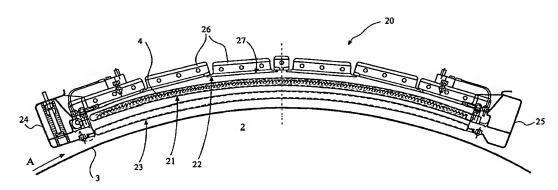
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(54) Title: INFRA RED DRYER



(57) Abstract: An IR dryer (20), for use in drying a continuous paper web (3) by means of IR radiation, comprising an array of IR emitters (21) arranged, in use, in spaced relation to the paper web and a lamp protection plate (23) intermediate the IR emitters (21) and the paper web (30). At least one of the lamp protection plate (23) and the array of IR emitters (21) is curved whereby drying a paper web (3) which moves in a curved path is facilitated.

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onal Application No PCT/GB 03/00697

CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
PC 7 D21F5/00 F26B3/28 C03B23/04 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) D21F F26B G05D A61G C03B Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Category * Cliation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 1,9 US 4 882 852 A (KAUTTO JORMA) X 28 November 1989 (1989-11-28) 3,6,30 Υ the whole document 1,3,6 DE 33 17 714 A (IMPACT SYSTEMS INC) 8 December 1983 (1983-12-08) the whole document 1 US 4 942 675 A (SUNDQVIST HANS) Υ 24 July 1990 (1990-07-24) the whole document 3 US 3 293 770 A (RAUSKOLB FRED W) Y 27 December 1966 (1966-12-27) the whole document Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Х Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance Invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the International "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed Invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 1 8, 09, 03 10 September 2003 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Gast, D

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		PC1/GB 03/0009/				
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Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passi	ages	Relevant to claim No.			
Υ	EP 1 060 727 A (DATEX OHMEDA INC) 20 December 2000 (2000-12-20) figures 3A,3B		6,30			
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emational application No. PCT/GB 03/00697

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)						
This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:						
Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:						
2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:						
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).						
Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)						
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:						
see additional sheet						
As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.						
As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.						
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:						
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:						
Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. X No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.						

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-10,29-31

An IR dryer for use in drying a continuous paper web by means of IR radiation.

2. Claims: 11-28

Method and apparatus for bending an elongate quartz tube and curved quartz tube.

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